

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Health Department
3010 Grand Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, March 20, 2017

10:00 AM

Lake County Health Department

Mental Health Coalition

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Lawlor called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Present 12 - Hart, Lawlor, Garrett, Martin, Sashko, Tamasy, Jouppe, Pierson, Vasseur, Maya, Nerheim and Curran

Absent 6 - Susie-Lattner, Ishaug, Harris, Haney, Bishop and Peterson Hall

Others Present:

Susan Resko, The Josselyn Center Northfield

Emperatriz Guerra, Arden Shore Child and Family Services

Carmen Patten, A Safe Place

Ernest Vasseur, Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County

Rachel Greenspan, NorthShore University Health System

Danielle Ringwelski, North Highland

Don Pierson, Lake County United

Bruce Johnson, Nicasa Behavioral Health Services

Felicia Gilg, College of Lake County Nursing student

Joe Tranchita, Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center

Sue Shimon, Thresholds

Cameron Davis, Assistant County Administrator

Sam Johnson-Maurello, Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center

Linda Weiss, Independence Center Waukegan

Gail Weil, Community Youth Network

Maureen Murphy, Catholic Charities

Theresa Buckman, SEDOL

Francis Ferrer, EL Rinieon

Olivia Diaz, El Puente Latino

Mark Curran, Lake County Sheriff

Miranda Ludwig, Youth Conservation Corps

Ben Richards, Youth Conservation Corps

Janelle Moravele, Youth & Family Services

Jennifer Price, Abbott House

Ashley Jones, Meridian health Plan

Arlene Ryndak, Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center

2. Approval Of Minutes**2.1 [17-0332](#)**

Minutes from February 13, 2017.

A motion was made that this item be approval of minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Hart, Lawlor, Garrett, Martin, Sashko, Tamasy, Jouppe, Pierson, Vasseur, Maya, Nerheim and Curran

Absent: 6 - Susie-Lattner, Ishaug, Harris, Haney, Bishop and Peterson Hall

3. Chair's Remarks

Co-Chair Lawlor announced the newest member to the Coalition, Jesse Petersen Hall

representing NorthShore University Health Systems could not attend the meeting. He hopes to have a representative of Northwestern University Hospital soon.

Co-Chair Lawlor shared experiences on visiting a public health clinic in East Timor, Asia with the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

4. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

There were no public comments.

Member Vasseur suggested moving Public Comments to later in the meeting either mid-stream or after the presentation. He advised the public may then have a better opportunity to provide comments then rather than at the beginning of the meeting and the public may suggest potential subjects for future meetings. Co-Chair Lawlor looked to the other committee members for their consensus and encouraged the community to attend the meetings and provide their comments. He advised that the committee values the input from all the stakeholders.

5. Old Business

5.1 Discussion on Charter

A. McEwan reported that the committee members provided input to the draft Charter and advised some of the initial interviews with the consultant candidates also provided input. She suggested the committee may wish to hold off adopting the Charter until they receive input from the selected consultant who will have subject matter expertise; or the committee could adopt the Charter, and make amendments to it in the future. There was no objection voiced by the members present to continue the Charter discussion to a future meeting.

6. New Business

6.1 Presentation on Lake County Treatment and Support Services

Megan McKenna, Executive Director of Mana a Mano, Board Chair of the Alliance for Human Services, provided an overview of the Alliance for Human Services, the mental health services offered by Alliance members, and shared some challenges faced by over 50 Alliance members and their clients to provide and access services. She advised the hardest services to connect clients to were psychiatry and stable, affordable housing. M. McKenna reported 10 agencies responded to a survey of services prepared for today's presentation. She advised the survey results revealed all age populations were served, however there was a gap of less agencies serving young children. In addition, only a few of the agencies offered suicide prevention or served the criminal justice population. M. McKenna reported there is only one psychiatrist used by the non-profit agencies for all the psychiatric medication and services. Member Garrett inquired on the effectiveness of services without medication due to the gap in psychiatry services. M. McKenna invited the other alliance members to respond to the members' questions.

Gail Weil, Community Youth Network reported 60% of clients recover with non-medication assisted counseling. Member Maya reported the Health Department provides psychiatrists for medication management and crisis. Member Garrett suggested it would be interesting to receive data on the number of persons who received services at the Health Department due to a gap in services elsewhere. Co-Chair Lawlor invited M.

Pfister to advise the committee on the Health Department's medication assisted treatment. M. Pfister reported the Health Department provides medication assisted treatment with counseling. Clients are reporting the effects of Vivitrol, an Opioid antagonist, wears off around the 27th day after the injection. The treatment protocol includes both the injection and counseling. In addition, the Health Department provides immediate psychiatric services for those in crisis, otherwise non-crisis psychiatric services wait time may be 6 months. He advised the biggest barrier is the availability of psychiatrists and salary expectations. M. Curran advised that general medical practitioners also prescribe medication and psychologists can provide treatment recommendations.

Co-Chair Lawlor reported in a few months the committee will be exploring the treatment services capacity issues. A discussion ensued on the nationwide shortage of psychiatrists and alternative professional services, such as tele-psychiatry and current budget constraints. A. McEwan provided clarification that when considering mental health treatment, a one-size-fits-all approach may not be advisable, that it may be better goal for the Coalition to identify where the gaps exist and where sufficient services are provided. The discussion ensued on increasing the capacity for professional services, gap in culturally competent services and the ability to sustain each of these services. M. Pfister reported the Health Department has a pilot tele-psychiatry program and a contract with the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science to provide the Health Department four residents each year.

M. McKenna reported the survey data revealed the average number of clients per year per provider was 1,323, median number of clients per year was 600, the range of clients per year was 150-5,700.

Member Hart inquired how closely do the Alliance for Human Services work with Workforce Development or other employment agencies. M. McKenna reported some Alliance members provide employment assistance services and members collaborate to coordinate services. Member Vasseur reported the Mental Health Collaborative (Arden Shore, Nicasa, Health Department, YWCA) coordinates workforce services provided by YWCA for 40 dually diagnosed adults.

Co-Chair Garrett inquired if clients' needs are prioritized and if agencies have a protocol for providing the needed services. A discussion ensued on case management services. M. Pfister reported one of the biggest challenges is determining when a client is ready for a specific services and housing is a key factor. Member Maya agreed that housing stability is a key factor for clients to have progress in treatment services.

Co-Chair Lawlor reported the employment gap is being addressed and may warrant a round table discussion with some Lake County Partners. He advised how we integrate and maximize the employment services is critical. Bruce Johnson suggested the Lake County Mental Health Coalition could build and bridge relationships with Lake County employers with awareness of the services provided to clients.

Member Pierson inquired if the Alliance for Human Services would welcome a for profit

organization, such as U.S. Healthvest, who could target a gap in services such as suicide prevention services. Bruce Johnson reported the Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County has been provided substantial assistance to address the gaps in services.

Co-Chair Lawlor advised housing and homelessness will be discussed next month, future meetings will include employment alignment and transportation issues.

Ben Richards, Youth Conservation Corps, a non-behavioral health agency advised they employ a career specialist, however there remains gaps including the need for social workers. A discussion ensued on the coordinated services that include employment assistance, prioritizing clients' service needs, and the need for sustainable funding streams in Lake County.

Co-Chair Lawlor reported next month a consultant will be introduced to assist the Coalition with sharing data sets. A. McEwan reported the consultant will help the Coalition hone in on the most impactful data sets that could be reviewed on a regular basis and to guide future work.

*A copy of the Alliance for Human Services presentation can be accessed on the Lake County Mental Health Coalition website. Copy this link to your browser:
<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/3797/21770/Mental-Health-Coalition>*

7. Staff Reports

A. McEwan reported on April 17, 2017 the Coalition will receive a presentation on Housing and Homelessness, Human Services, and hopefully the introduction and conversation with the consultant. In addition, on May 22, 2017, there will be a presentation on the Health Department Health Action Plans and the subcommittees progress on outcomes.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Vasseur to adjourn, seconded by Member Martin. The motion carried by the following votes: The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 13 - Hart, Lawlor, Garrett, Martin, Sashko, Tamasy, Ishaug, Jouppi, Pierson, Vasseur, Maya, Nerheim and Curran

Absent: 5 - Susie-Lattner, Harris, Haney, Bishop and Peterson Hall

Meeting minutes prepared by Donna Jo Maki.

Respectfully submitted,

Co Chair

Co Chair